News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 13, 2002

Contact: Joe Rosato (916) 324-1576 California State Parks Jrosa@parks.ca.gov

Glass Beverage Containers to be Banned at Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area

(OCEANO) --State Park officials at Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) will implement a ban on glass beverage containers at the popular park. Beginning January 1, 2003, all visitors entering the park with glass beverage containers are subject to citation and fine.

"Each year visitors deposit tons of glass containers in the park's dumpsters, or leave glass containers on the ground, or in their camping areas and even in campfires," said Superintendent Steve Yamaichi. "Most of the glass waste ends up in our landfill, creating an unnecessary workload for park staff. Little is ever recycled."

He urged all those who want to enjoy unspoiled recreational opportunity to leave their glass beverage containers at home, or face the possibility of a citation and fine.

Several times a year four-wheel drive clubs from all over California go to the SVRA to pick up trash and litter left by park visitors. Through their dedication and efforts tons of trash and debris have been removed from the SVRA, but Yamaichi said it's not enough. "Eliminating glass containers from the SVRA will have a positive impact on natural and recreational resources by reducing litter, waste and potential hazards," Yamaichi said.

The ban is similar to one in effect at the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area managed by the federal Bureau of Land Management.

###

